

May 31, 2019

Downtown Revitalization Initiative Committee  
Regional Economic Development Council  
New York City Region  
633 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10017

RE: DRI Application for Downtown Staten Island

Dear Downtown Revitalization Initiative Committee:

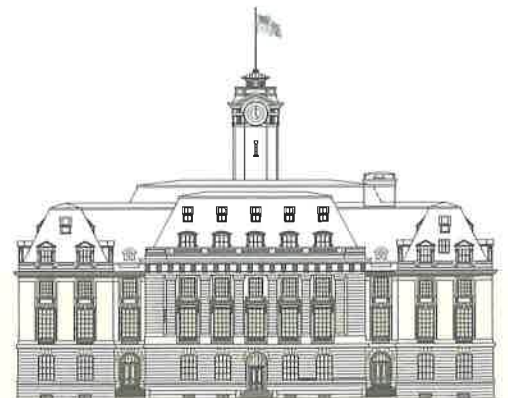
I am writing this letter to voice my strong support of the joint application from the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation (SIEDC) and the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce (SICC) for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative.

I am not exaggerating when I say that Downtown Staten Island is poised for a renaissance unlike any other neighborhood in the city of New York. By the time you receive this letter, New York City's first outlet mall, Empire Outlets, will have celebrated their grand opening and will be welcoming thousands of visitors, shoppers and employees on a daily basis.

Lighthouse Point will be another day closer to completion and grand opening, with its hotel, shops, apartments, restaurants and retail stores, and the residential complex known as Urby will be beginning their expansion.

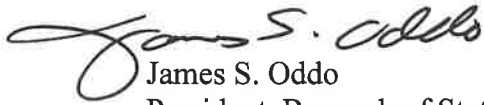
And I have only described the proverbial tip of the iceberg.

With strategic investment from the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, Staten Island can build upon the momentum already generated along the corridor from the massive projects I have briefly described. The application presented maps out a plan to benefit our local business community and residents alike, and I have full confidence in the capacity of these two major Staten Island stakeholders to use this funding in the manner most beneficial to all who live on, work in, and visit the island.



Please review their application with full consideration of the benefits this infusion of capital would have to the area. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office through our REDC representative Lashay Young, who can be reached at [lyoung@stateninsula.com](mailto:lyoung@stateninsula.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James S. Oddo".

James S. Oddo  
President, Borough of Staten Island